ples for her,—scarcely sought her powerful aid to ennoble the people. Money spent in the production of really great works for universal contemplation,—in the construction and decoration of august public buildings which, belonging in a degree to all, increase their self-respect, improve their taste, and raise their aspirations, is but put out to use, and will return a glorious interest. Counteracting the absorbing love of gain and the pursuit of mean pleasures, the language of such works goes straight to the hearts of all, giving higher motives for exertion and purer enjoyments: arousing dormant energies and dignifying the character of man.

The great end of art is to develop and exalt the mind,—the elevation of art, but the means to this end. As we have before urged, the operation of our association is, to advance art by the improvement of public taste, and to advance civilisation by the improvement of art.

GEORGE GODWIN, } Hon. Secs.
LEWIS POCOCK, }

Mr. John Martin, M.P., briefly moved the following resolution, first strongly deprecating the interference of the Board of Trade:—

"That the report now read be received and adopted. That this meeting, cordially agreeing with the efforts made to maintain the fundamental principles of the institution, request the council to persevere in their exertions: and, further, that the thanks of this association be presented to the council and officers for their valuable exertions."

Mr. B. Bond Cabbell, M.P., in seconding the resolution, said—Although we appear before you on the present occasion under the sanction of an Act of Parliament, and under the sanction of a Royal Charter, I have no hesitation in saying that great impediments have been thrown in our way by the Board of Trade, unauthorised by that Act of Parliament, either legally, morally, or, in the language of the day, on the ground of expediency. I can refer to the experience of a society of this nature some years ago, where the selection of the pictures purchased was made by the committee of that society. Ladies and gentlemen, that society only existed for three years. It was brought to a premature termination at the end of three years, from the ridicule which was thrown upon that committee in the selection of those pictures for the different prizeholders. Do not let me be mistaken; I do not say that ridicule was properly or judiciously thrown upon the committee—it was thrown upon them because it is perfectly impossible for any body of men to select for others what will be just in accordance with their own tastes. I will confine my remarks to the principle upon which our society had its existence. It exists upon the principle that the selection should be given to the prizeholders. That was the principle from the very beginning: that was the principle, Sir, upon which your Royal Highness condescended to give it your support, and I appeal to you, and will appeal to every one, whether we can select a better mode of creating taste than by giving an interest to the individual to select the best work he can. That is creating an interest in the individual, and in that point of view it is conducive to the arts. Now, it is very well known that the demand will create the supply; and if you can create a taste for the arts among the people generally, you will create art, and by that means give honour and distinction, and wealth and rank, and station to the artist;—and connected with our commercial pursuits, I do not think we can turn our attention to any object more worthy of support and patronage, than a society of this kind, every individual having the right to select his own picture. Now, I have mentioned that we appear before you under this Act of Parliament and the Charter. It is under the Act of Parliament that the Board of Trade have the power of making bye-laws; but with all due submission to the Board of Trade, I conceive they are exceeding their powers in making any alteration, or in proposing or suggesting any, with respect to the very principle on which the society exists. What is the meaning of bye-laws? A bye-law is a law referring to some principle or superior power already in existence. What is that? That is our Charter. We were sanctioned by the Act of Parliament as we then existed. The principle always has been that of selection on the part of the prizeholder, and any bye-law must be subservient to that principle. I shall, therefore, with all submission, impress upon this meeting that the committee are right in adhering to that; and I trust that the Board of Trade will see a reason, as far as this institution is concerned, for giving way, and not carrying out any supposed powers they may have. I contend they have no power; because, I say that a bye-law must be subservient to a pre-existing principle.

When the chairman was about to put the resolution, a gentleman named Hersee said he was sorry to obtrude himself upon a meeting where so much unanimity invariably prevailed, but he thought there was an apparent want of candour in the report on one subject, and although he had every confidence in the council himself, still he could not but fear they might be misjudged by the public at large if it were passed by unnoticed. An addition to the resolution, which he had prepared, would best convey what he meant. He then read as follows:—

"That this meeting having observed that in explaining the decrease of subscriptions, the committee do not make sufficient allusion to the prejudice created against the Art-Union by the inferior quality of last year's prints, beg to suggest that the prosperity of the Art-Union depends greatly on the character of its publications, and to convey a friendly recommendation of increased attention to this point in future."

The honorary secretary, at the request of the Duke, again read that part of the report which refers to the engravings, and Mr. Hersee, admitting that he had not heard the report read, withdrew his amendment, and the original motion was carried, loud cheers marking the opinion of the meeting in respect of the unnecessary interference of the Board of Trade.

Mr. Serjeant Thompson moved, with very kind expressions, the following resolution:—

"That the cordial thanks of this meeting are due to Mr. George Godwin and Mr. Lewis Pocock, hon. secretaries, for their uniformly zealous exertions to promote the best interests of the institution."

In doing so he defended ably the steps which the council had taken to obtain engravings, and shewed that they could not have acted other than they did. He condemned strongly the interference of the Board of Trade and the alteration proposed; and thus went on:—I can only say for myself that, notwithstanding my high opinion of many lectures that have been delivered in this country from the time of Reynolds down to the time of my unfortunate friend Haydon,—notwithstanding my appreciation of the effects of those lectures,—I know of nothing that ever has given so much knowledge to people in general in art as their having before them the question of determining for themselves, and for their own property, between several pictures which have been placed before them. There was a time certainly when I thought differently; because at that time I was ignorant of the effects of art upon the people: and that is what I contend is the great ignorance of the Board of Trade; they do not know the effect of art upon the people. It was formerly supposed to be the best thing which a nobleman or great landed proprietor could do, to make a gallery of pictures; and artists were taught to look up to men of eminence as patrons of art. But how much better is it that any man may now himself obtain a picture, which he examines and studies particularly, and which is always before him to elevate his mind and increase his pleasure! How much better to circulate among the generality of people,—to circulate indeed, as the Art-Union does everywhere, almost into every cottage,—to circulate those works which genius and taste (for a man may have genius and taste and no opulence) can properly appreciate.

Mr. Hurlstone, P.B.A., warmly seconded the resolution, and referred to the fact that the council, in properly rejecting the proposition of the Board of Trade, were nobly giving up a vast amount of patronage.

The motion having been carried, Mr. Pocock and Mr. Godwin severally returned thanks: the latter gentleman observing, he thought it was the tenth year in which he had had the pleasure of writing and reading the annual report, and that he had given, in conjunction with his friend Mr. Pocock, much time to the society with a great deal of pleasure, because he had felt that it was a powerful instrument for good. He was not certain, however, that he should again be able to do so, the claims of his profession being great. They would have no difficulty in getting a much more able secretary, but he boldly asserted, they would nowhere find one more zealous and earnest.

Mr. C. F. Dennett and Mr. John Imray were then appointed scrutineers; and Miss Davis and Miss Hemery having consented to draw the prizes, the distribution commenced. Previous to this his Royal Highness the President retired, first expressing his entire concurrence with the report of the council, and regretting that the Board of Trade would not "leave well alone." The selection would be a most odious task for the Committee: they would please no one, and the number of subscribers would necessarily decrease.

Mr. B. B. Cabbell was called to the chair; and after the distribution thanks were voted to the scrutineers and the ladies, and honourable mention made of the assistant-secretary, Mr. T. S. Watson.

The following is a correct

LIST OF THE PRIZEHOLDERS ENTITLED TO SELECT FOR THEMSELVES.

Entitled to a Work of Art of the Value of Three Hundred Pounds.

Taylor, Mrs., Bow-road.

Entitled to a work of Art of the Value of Two Hundred Pounds.

Hatfield, J. A., 20, Cumberland-street, Middlesex Hospital.

Entitled each to a Work of Art of the Value of One Hundred and Fifty Pounds.

Foreman, R., Gateshead, Durham.
Meade, C., North Walsham, Norwich.

Entitled each to a Work of Art of the Value of One Hundred Pounds.

Allen, F., Pershore.
Cottingham, Rev. H., Hathersage, near Bakewell.
Hosking, Mrs., Sidney.
Varden, S., Stock Exchange.

Entitled each to a Work of Art of the Value of Eighty Pounds.

Clark, C., Twickenham.
Davis, J., 3, Neg-road, Fitzroy-square.
Field, H., 15, Heath-place, Cambridge-heath, Hackney.
Jones, J. M., 8, Austin Friars.
Murphy, Wm., Inn's-quay, Dublin.
Vernon, Rev. W. H., Sutton, Surrey.

Entitled each to a Work of Art of the Value of Seventy Pounds.

Allen, R., Trinity House.
Brook, William, Chiddingstone, Tunbridge.
Burcham, R. P., 14, Albany-street, Regent's-park.
Freeman, J. W., Troy, New York.
Leigh, Rev. W., Pulham, Norwich.
Walker, J. C., Hobart Town.

Entitled each to a Work of Art of the Value of Sixty Pounds.

Bridger, C., 3, Keppel-street, Russell-square.
Browne, W. P., Cambridge.
Dennett, W. H., Worthing.
Edwards, W., Sheepcar-street, Liverpool.
Ince, J. M., King's-parade, Cambridge.
Pye, H., Louth.
Smart, Chas., 3, Trinity-street, Cambridge.
Tweatyman, R., 78, Wood-street.

Entitled each to a Work of Art of the Value of Fifty Pounds.

Hare, H. J., Brambope-hall, Leeds.
Hawkins, E., F.R.S., F.S.A., British Museum.
Jewitt, J. W., 7, Eastcheap.
Kemble, Rev. C., 10, Montague-place, Clapham-road.
Levett, Mrs., Milford-hall, Stafford.
Maurice, J., Ruthin, Denbighshire.
Potts, Jno., Gateshead, Durham.
Powell, J., Wem.
Search, A., 14, Whitehall-place.
Swainson, W., 9, Charlotte-row, Walworth.

Entitled each to a Work of Art of the Value of Forty Pounds.

Atkinson, F., per Rev. R. B. Mayor, Rugby.
Brocklehurst, P. L., Tythington, Macclesfield.
Bupuey, John, 9, Pancras-lane.
Coote, D. R., Newbliss, Ireland.
Davis, J. A., Boston, Massachusetts.
Duck, R., High-street, Manchester.
Gold, Miss, Heslington, York.
Knowles, L., Gomersal, near Leeds.
Mappleton, L., Newton Abbott.
Meggy, G., Chelmsford.

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